

**December 13, 2012**

**Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.**

***Court Stories*, new online video series about Michigan courts, debuts today**

[Press release](#)

**The Detroit News: Hearing postponed until March 12 on proceeds from Kilpatrick's book**

"A hearing on the proceeds of former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's autobiography has been postponed until March 12 in Wayne County Circuit Court. In a brief court hearing Wednesday, Kilpatrick's attorney Dan Hajji asked for the delay until after his client's federal racketeering trial concludes. The trial is expected to end in February."

[Full story](#)

***Also see:***

**Associated Press: Kilpatrick back in court in March to talk books**

[Full story](#)

**The Detroit News: Judge orders May election for Troy; State wins fight over early mayoral vote**

"A judge on Wednesday ordered the city of Troy to hold a mayoral election in May, siding with state officials against the city in a dispute over when voters should choose a successor to recalled Mayor Janice Daniels. The ruling by Oakland County Circuit Judge Denise Langford Morris overturns the city's decision to wait until November to elect someone to finish Daniels' term, which runs until November 2015."

[Full story](#)

***Also see:***

**Detroit Free Press: Judge to Troy: Hold special mayoral vote in May**

[Full story](#)

**Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Court orders Troy to hold Special Mayoral Election**

[Full story](#)

**The Oakland Press: Judge orders City of Troy to hold special mayoral election in May**

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune and the Macomb Daily.**

**The Detroit News: Lawsuit over birth at Wayne County jail settled for \$8M**

"Wayne County has agreed to an \$8 million settlement in a lawsuit involving a 14-year-old girl who lacked critical oxygen when she was born in jail. Chelsie Barker suffered brain damage and is severely impaired. The county is accused of violating the girl's civil rights by not getting her mother to a hospital for the delivery."

[Full story](#)

***Also see:***

**Detroit Free Press: Lawsuit over birth with lack-of-oxygen at Wayne County jail settled for \$8M**

[Full story](#)

**Associated Press: Lawsuit over birth at county jail settled for \$8M**

[Full story](#)

### **The Detroit News: Boiler likely source of gas leak in Plymouth Twp. district court**

"The 35th District Court has been evacuated and closed for the day because of a natural gas leak, according to police. Lt. Jamie Grabowski said the cause of the leak was most likely the courthouse's boiler. Independent contractors worked on the boiler on Wednesday, and it is believed that gas leaked overnight until security guards called police to report smelling gas at 7:45 a.m., he said."

[Full story](#)

### **Also see:**

### **Detroit Free Press: Plymouth court evacuated due to gas leak; no injuries reported**

[Full story](#)

### **The Oakland Press: Court closed after workers report natural gas odor**

[Full story](#)

### **Battle Creek Enquirer: Conviction upheld in drunken-driving crash that killed child**

"An appeals court has upheld the conviction of a Litchfield father charged with killing his son in a drunken driving accident. Robert Ruh II, 33, is serving a sentence of 8 to 20 years in prison after being convicted by a Calhoun County Circuit Court jury of manslaughter with a motor vehicle in the death of his son on Dec. 12, 2009."

[Full story](#)

**\*\* The article is available by subscription only.**

### **Daily Press & Argus: Case could decide fate of cash aid to Michigan needy**

"The Michigan Supreme Court is weighing whether to hear a case that could affect thousands of families on welfare — including many in Livingston County — who receive cash assistance. The state's highest court recently heard arguments from the Center for Civil Justice, which filed a class-action lawsuit that challenged a state Department of Human Services policy that cuts off benefits after 60 months."

[Full story](#)

### **Daily Press & Argus: Howell attorney gets probation**

"Former Howell attorney Theresa Heikkinen, who once ran for a Livingston County District Court judge's seat, was sentenced this morning to three years probation for embezzling less than \$20,000 from one of her clients. She also was given 100 days in the Livingston County Jail but was given credit for 100 days already served. She was in the jail while the case was pending."

[Full story](#)

### **Grand Rapids Press: Family speaks of little girl welcomed during annual Kent County Adoption Day: 'She's the missing piece'**

In a matter of one week, the lives of Peter and Frances Cain forever changed. The Grand Rapids couple adopted a son, Alex, in 2009. On a Monday this past June, they received a call that Alex's birth mother was again pregnant and about to deliver a little girl, an infant with the same biological father. She wanted to give her up for adoption."

[Full story](#)

### **Ingham County Legal News: The Seven Day Rule**

Ingham County Probate Court Administrator/Register George M. Strander writes "Our court rules have long provided for the entry of a judgment or order at some point after the judge's verbal decision in court.... One popular method for such delayed entry is the so-called 'Seven Day Rule' (SDR)."

[Full story](#)

### **Jackson County Legal News: CPCAN in holiday mood**

"A Holiday Open House for the Jackson County Council for Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (CPCAN) in Jackson was held on December 7.... [CPCAN's mission] also provides truancy programs through the Jackson Family Court."

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Woman who believed she was fired for serving on jury gets job back**

"Christmas spirit was evident Wednesday in an Ingham County courtroom. A Webberville woman who believed she was fired in September from her job at a gas station diner because she served as a juror was told she could return to work Saturday."

[Full story](#)

**\*\* The article is available by subscription only.**

### **The Macomb Daily: Lawyer's attorney: Macomb County prosecutor treating him unfairly**

"The lawyer for a well-known criminal defense attorney charged with 'super drunk' driving said Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith is treating his client unfavorably because the case has generated publicity.... He said Smith won't offer Kosmala a chance to plead to a lower offense."

[Full story](#)

### **MLive.com: Right to Work bills revamp how courts handle challenges to them**

"... [W]ith their bid to make Michigan the 24th Right to Work state, Republican leaders don't plan to let the Ingham County court get in the way. Provisions in Senate Bill 116 and House Bill 4003 bypass the Ingham County court, giving original jurisdiction on key sections of the Right to Work law to the Michigan Court of Appeals."

[Full story](#)

### **The Morning Sun: Burdick opens new chapter in life in law enforcement**

"Described by Isabella County Chief Judge Paul Chamberlain as a steady, solid prosecutor, Larry Burdick spent 24 years protecting the community as the top law enforcement officer in the county. Now on the other side of the bench, Burdick is practicing a different sort of law: that of Saginaw Chippewa Tribal judge."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Society honors Justice Kelly**

"The American Constitution Society (ACS) hosted its Sixth Annual Dinner Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 29, at the Detroit Golf Club. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly received the 2012 Milliken Award for exemplary public service during the dinner."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Federal judge feted at portrait unveiling: Newblatt laughs the loudest at stories, barbs during ceremony**

"Stewart Newblatt had picked his career. He was going to be an engineer, after a stint in the Army at the end of World War II. But after being sent overseas as a young soldier in an investigative unit, with orders to find and bring back a deserter, Newblatt had an awakening that led him into the field of law."

[Full story](#)

### **Saginaw News: Saginaw County District Judge Christopher Boyd takes 'new and exciting opportunity' as chief assistant prosecutor**

"Rather than spend his next four years doing what he's been doing since 1989, Saginaw County District Judge Christopher S. Boyd will take advantage of a 'new and exciting opportunity' as the county's chief assistant prosecutor. County Prosecutor Elect John A. McColgan Jr. on Monday, Dec. 10, announced that he hired Boyd as his chief assistant."

[Full story](#)

### **Washtenaw County Legal News: WLAM Holiday Party**

"In what has become a popular holiday tradition, about 100 women and a handful of men attended the WLAM Holiday Party at the downtown condo of Ann Arbor attorney Nora Wright last week.... Each year, the group honors a member for her leadership, talent, and significant contributions to women. This year, the honoree was Bridget McCormack, who was recently elected to the Michigan Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)